duced on a much lower plane, as shown in a side view of the prosternum (fig. 2).

The prosternal striæ join in front and the keel at the coxæ begins to widen out gradually to its base. The apices of the anterior femora (shown in fig. 1) are grooved in a remarkable manner and are built up with semicircular edges, and the grooves are very finely but very distinctly transversely striate.

Hab. San Estaban ; taken in March 1888.

Idolia integra, n. sp.

Orbicularis, perconvexa, picea, nitida, pedibus antennisque rufis ; fronte subtilissime et minutissime strigosa, margine elevato, antice haud interrupto ; pronoto, stria marginali integra, elevata, lateraliter distincte sinuato ; prosterno minutissime strigoso, lateraliter striato ; mesosterno stria antice integra metasternoque disperse punctulatis ; pygidio lævi.

Long. 2 mill.

Hab. San Estaban.

This species is exceedingly like *Idolia gibba*, Lewis, but the mesosternal stria is complete in front and the two sternal plates are distinctly punctulate. In *Idolia gibba* the mesosternal stria terminates on each side at a point opposite the prosternal stria, and is therefore widely interrupted, and it is at present the only described species in which it is so.

V.—*Note on a new Species of* Ampullaria *from the La Plata.* By Joseph W. Williams.

Mr. W. D. George, of Charlton, has recently sent me an Ampullarian which he collected in October 1888 from some marshes near the La Plata, at Buenos Ayres, in the Argentine Republic. I have, in company with Mr. Edgar Smith, examined the species belonging to this genus which are in the National Collection, and not found one to which this present shell could be referred ; I have also looked over the various literature known to me on the genus, and have found no description which could be applied to this form. I therefore name it (provisionally at any rate) *Ampullaria canaliculata*, for a reason which will be readily noticed in the following description.

The shell is large, solid, and thick. Its length is 6 centim.

and its breadth (taking the body-whorl) 48 millim. The general shape of the shell is globoso-conoidal, the body-whorl in the region of the peritreme being considerably swollen, but compressed laterally in that part where it passes into the penultimate whorl. There are five whorls. The spire is very short (12 millim.) in comparison with the rest of the shell, and its apex is obtuse. The suture between the body and the penultimate whorl and also between this last and the antepenultimate whorl is deeply and triangularly channelled (hence the specific name of *canaliculata* proposed for it). The nucleus is of a light rufous colour. The general body-colour is of a dull yellowish green (similar to that of our English *Paludina vivipara*, Linn.) and is marked on the body-whorl by fourteen linear brown spiral bands, by four on the penultimate, and by three on the antepenultimate whorl. The periostracum is strongly marked with closely placed longitudinal striæ continuous from whorl to whorl over the sutures; the transverse striæ are much finer and wider apart than are the longitudinal striæ. The inner lip is reflected upon the body-whorl, and behind a ledge of it can be seen a large, deep, and obliquely placed umbilicus. The aperture is of an ovoidal shape, with a transverse diameter of 34 millim. and a longitudinal one of 45 millim. The peritreme is of a carneous colour, and this is continued on the inside of the body-whorl for a distance in one specimen of 14 millim., behind which the internal layer of the shell is coloured a chocolate-brown. The banding of the shell is visible on looking into the shell from the aperture. The operculum is chitinous (as is the case with nearly all New-World species) and somewhat of a reniform shape, its narrower end being placed in the aperture upwards. It is well marked by concentric striæ and the nucleus is placed excentrically, near to what corresponds to the hilum of its reniform shape. On its outer aspect the nucleus is placed on a depressed area, which corresponds to a circumscribed elevation on its inner aspect. The whole of the periostracum is glossy and the whole shell translucent. The umbilicus discloses a part of the penultimate whorl.

The specimens from which I have given the above description were collected by Mr. George in October last. They were sent to me on May 8th of this year, having been brought by him from Buenos Ayres, and the most interesting part of it is that one of the shells contained an animal which, on extraction, showed evidence of very recent death, and which, although giving off no fetor, was unfortunately not quite in a fit state for systematic dissection. Mr. George brought the shells over packed with *Unios* and *Helix* (*Macularia*) *punctata*,

Müller, in a cigar-box, and therefore the animal had existed for some months without water. How, then, had it lived? It appears to me that the animal had breathed atmospheric air by the right side of its pulmonary chamber, which the researches of Jourdain and Sabatier have shown to be vascularized, but had died on account of having received no help from the left side of the pulmonary chamber, which contains a ctenidium. The fact that a *Helix punctata* which Mr. George also brought over in the same box was alive until yesterday, when I dissected it, shows, I think, that *Ampullaria*, though amphibious, cannot exist out of water for a lengthened period of time.

Note.—Since sending the above to press I find that the name I propose has been preoccupied by Lamarck. I therefore, in its place, suggest for it the name of *Ampullaria Georgii*, after the gentleman who found it and sent it to me.—J. W. W.

VI.—Pentacrini *in peculiar Beds of Great Oolite Age near Basle.* By F. A. Bather, B.A., Assistant in the British Museum (Natural History).

A memoir entitled 'Description des Fossiles de la Grande Oolithe des environs de Bâle,' by Mons. Édouard Greppin, and consisting of 137 pages of text, with ten plates, was published early this year in the 'Mémoires de la Société Paléontologique Suisse,' vol. xv. (1888), at Basle and Geneva. M. Greppin, whose collection I had the pleasure of working through last summer at Basle, kindly gave me for examination some stem-joints of *Pentacrinus* which were new to me. He has printed in his memoir (pp. 133, 134) extracts from the letter that I wrote him anent these specimens; my drawings, however, he was unable to reproduce. To found a species on stem-fragments is, though good may come, to do evil; but to describe a new form without adequate illustration is utterly condemnable. I hasten therefore to complete the description by the accompanying figures, and at the same time would wish to borrow from M. Greppin's work such an account of the rock and of the associated fossils as may invest with interest an otherwise dry communication.

The Great Oolite is the most developed constituent of the